Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., S.W. Washington, D.C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500 Internet: http://www.fcc.gov TTY: 1-888-835-5322

DA 20-1286

Released: October 29, 2020

PUBLIC SAFETY & HOMELAND SECURITY BUREAU EXTENDS THE DISASTER INFORMATION REPORTING SYSTEM FOR HURRICANE ZETA

The Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau (PSHSB) of the Federal Communications Commission (Commission) is extending its disaster data collection to 73 additional counties for HURRICANE ZETA.

On October 28, 2020, the Commission activated its Disaster Information Reporting System (DIRS) to receive information on the status of communications equipment in 137 counties in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Today, the Department of Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency and the Federal Emergency Management Agency has asked the Commission to extend the data collection to 73 additional counties in North Carolina and South Carolina.

The Commission requests that communications providers that provide service to any areas listed below expeditiously submit and update information through DIRS regarding, *inter alia*, the status of their communications equipment, restoration efforts, and power (*i.e.*, whether they are using commercial power or back-up power). Communications providers can access DIRS at https://www.fcc.gov/nors/disaster/. Providers that have not previously done so will be asked to first provide contact information and obtain a User ID when they access DIRS. Communications providers are reminded that for providers that participate in DIRS, the separate Network Outage Reporting System obligations are suspended for the duration of the DIRS activation with respect to outages in the counties where DIRS has been activated. Reports are requested by 10:00 a.m. EDT, Friday, October 30, 2020, and every day after that by 10:00 a.m. EDT until DIRS is deactivated.

Communications providers that serve an area listed below and that have already provided contact information in DIRS will be sent an e-mail requesting that they provide the above-referenced status information through DIRS. The Commission encourages all communications providers that have not already logged onto DIRS to input their contact information do so as soon as possible.

THE ADDITIONAL COUNTIES OF INTEREST FOR THIS ACTIVATION INCLUDE:

North Carolina: Alamance, Alexander, Alleghany, Anson, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Caswell, Catawba, Chatham, Cherokee, Clay, Cleveland, Davidson, Davie, Durham, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and Jackson, Edgecombe, Forsyth, Franklin, Gaston, Graham, Granville,

¹ The FCC's Public Safety and Homeland Security Bureau Announces the Activation of the Disaster Information Reporting System in Response to Hurricane Zeta, Public Notice, DA-20-1273 (rel. Oct. 28, 2020).

² For DIRS reporting, combine status for Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and Jackson as a single entry for Jackson County

Guilford, Halifax, Harnett, Haywood, Henderson, Iredell, Johnston, Lee, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Montgomery, Moore, Nash, Northampton, Orange, Person, Polk, Randolph, Richmond, Rockingham, Rowan, Rutherford, Scotland, Stanly, Stokes, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Union, Vance, Wake, Warren, Watauga, Wilkes, Wilson, Yadkin, Yancey

South Carolina: Cherokee, Greenville, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, York

COUNTIES OF INTEREST FOR THIS ACTIVATION INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

Alabama: Autauga, Baldwin, Bibb, Bullock, Butler, Calhoun, Chambers, Cherokee, Chilton, Choctaw, Clarke, Clay, Cleburne, Coffee, Conecuh, Coosa, Covington, Crenshaw, Dallas, DeKalb, Elmore, Escambia, Etowah, Greene, Hale, Jefferson, Lee, Lowndes, Macon, Marengo, Mobile, Monroe, Montgomery, Perry, Pickens, Pike, Randolph, Shelby, St. Clair, Sumter, Talladega, Tallapoosa, Tuscaloosa, Washington, Wilcox

Florida: Escambia, Santa Rosa

Georgia: Banks, Bartow, Carroll, Catoosa, Chattooga, Cherokee, Clayton, Cobb, Coweta, Dade, Dawson, DeKalb, Douglas, Fannin, Fayette, Floyd, Forsyth, Franklin, Fulton, Gilmer, Gordon, Gwinnett, Habersham, Hall, Haralson, Heard, Jackson, Lumpkin, Murray, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Troup, Union, Walker, White, Whitfield

Louisiana: Ascension, Assumption, East Baton Rouge, East Feliciana, Iberia, Iberville, Jefferson, Lafourche, Livingston, Orleans, Plaquemines, St. Bernard, St. Charles, St. Helena, St. James, St. John the Baptist, St. Martin, St. Mary, St. Tammany, Tangipahoa, Terrebonne, Washington, West Baton Rouge

Mississippi: Amite, Clarke, Covington, Forrest, George, Greene, Hancock, Harrison, Jackson, Jasper, Jefferson Davis, Jones, Kemper, Lamar, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Lincoln, Marion, Noxubee, Pearl River, Perry, Pike, Simpson, Smith, Stone, Walthall, Wayne

North Carolina: Alamance, Alexander, Alleghany, Anson, Ashe, Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Cabarrus, Caldwell, Caswell, Catawba, Chatham, Cherokee, Clay, Cleveland, Davidson, Davie, Durham, Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians and Jackson,² Edgecombe, Forsyth, Franklin, Gaston, Graham, Granville, Guilford, Halifax, Harnett, Haywood, Henderson, Iredell, Johnston, Lee, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, McDowell, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Montgomery, Moore, Nash, Northampton, Orange, Person, Polk, Randolph, Richmond, Rockingham, Rowan, Rutherford, Scotland, Stanly, Stokes, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Union, Vance, Wake, Warren, Watauga, Wilkes, Wilson, Yadkin, Yancey

South Carolina: Cherokee, Greenville, Oconee, Pickens, Spartanburg, York

The FCC continues to monitor the storm and may amend the DIRS activation area in the coming days.

For further information, please contact:

Julia Tu (202) 418-0731, 202-321-4399 (cell), julia.tu@fcc.gov Michael Caiafa (202) 418-1311, (202) 277-5690 (cell), michael.caiafa@fcc.gov David Ahn (571) 232-8487 (cell), (202) 418-0853, david.ahn@fcc.gov FCC 24/7 Operations Center – 202-418-1122